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## A Synopsis of Sceptridium in Japan

## MAKOTO NISHIDA

Lyon (1905) emphasized the presence of a suspensor in the embryo of Botrychium obliquum Muhl., which had been referred to the section Phyllotrichium, and took this up as the chief diagnostic mark for the new genus Sceptridium, to which he transferred all the species previously placed in the section Phyllotrichium. However, almost all pteridologists since (Eames, 1936, for example) have not recognized the character of the suspensor as a valid diagnostic feature, for the gametophyte had been examined only in the single species B. obliquum. Eames regarded it as a specific feature that is changeable, as it is in the order Marattiales within a genus or sometimes even within the same species, as in Angiopteris evecta Hoffm. I found a suspensor also in the embryo of B. japonicum and supported Lyon's proposal for using the suspensor as a generic character (Nishida

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Concerning the dates of publication, see Ohwi, Act. Phytotax. Geobot. 2: 307, 308. November, 1933.